



The ENCOURAGER

SWR Chaplain News

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“LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDORED THING”

(Splendor- Impressive, Magnificent, Brilliant)

Yet, sometimes we live as if “Love is a Many Splintered Thing”. True love is forgiving and caring. Currently there is a lot going on in the CAP that has many upset and discouraged. My prayer is that the CAP membership, in general, and the chaplain core, in particular, will continue to march toward the goals set before us. Yes, we must express our concerns so those we disagree with can see our views, but at the same time we must move on to affect change in our own areas of influence. We must be **Encouragers**.

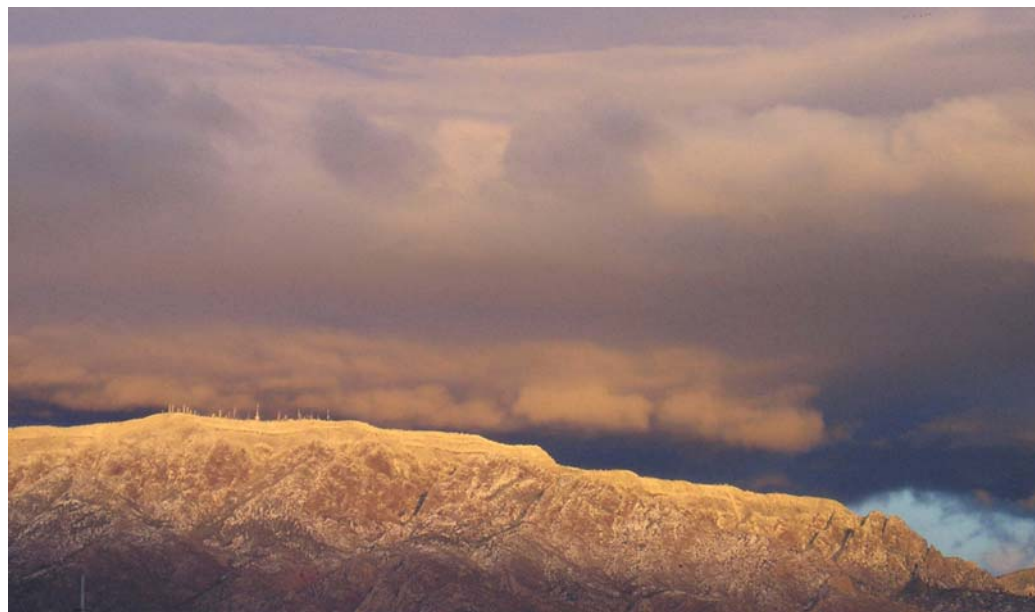
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A Special “God” Moment

“This is a God moment!” exclaimed Chaplain Charles Sharp at the conclusion of the memorial service for Chaplain Tom Jackson on January 7th. The scene before our eyes prompted his remark as “Taps” was being played. Looking through the sanctuary window we saw the snow-covered Sandia Mountains illuminated by the setting sun. After the closing prayer when we all looked up, the brilliant light had faded into the darkening twilight. We all remarked about God’s timing because it was cloudy in the west. The sunlight only came through at that special time because of a break in the clouds. The service was not held to a strict schedule, as there was an unlimited time of sharing before the playing of “Taps.” We rejoiced in that our loving Creator was observing the service with us and placed His touch on the finale.

Submitted by Chaplain LtCol John Doughty



“One Wing, One Team, One Mission”

by Steve Rountree, AZWG Chaplain

During our 2005 Arizona Wing Conference, we had a tremendous opportunity on Sunday morning to discuss a topic that has been weighing heavy on my mind lately. The Chaplain Service has an ongoing theme of "One Wing, One Team, One Mission." This theme was chosen to be used to help bring Arizona Wing closer in unity of service. All of our effort appears to be working as we have shown that we are an EXCELLENT team in many respects. The only way we could have accomplished so much in so short of time was through being united as one team in service.

Aesop has been credited as saying "United we stand. Divided we fall." I thought I understood the meaning of this until recently. When separating the words like so, United.... We stand, divided.... We fall, a new understanding can be seen. Aesop may have taught that when people gather together with common interests and common goals, we are able to stand (or withstand) much adversity and conflict to accomplish our mission. Unfortunately, we have all seen what happens when a group of individuals stand together, yet divided by individual interests and goals that may be contrary to the purpose of our service.

By definition, unity cannot exist without relying on others and others relying on you to accomplish a unified effort. Most of all, unity cannot exist without communicating on a consistent basis with those we serve. We have known this since the beginning of time. Our founding fathers knew this when, united in service, they created the documents that laid the firm foundation of our country. They had mastered the basics of unity that resulted in a unified front to oppose a common foe.

There are many components that we can choose in mastering the basics of unity. Ultimately, these basics are an individual choice. For me, some of the basics of unity are truth, fairness, peace, faith, forgiveness, prayer and [perseverance](#). In Civil Air Patrol, there are so many opportunities of unity available to us. One of the most valuable tools is the Cadet Oath, which reads:

I pledge that I will serve faithfully in the Civil Air Patrol cadet program, and that I will attend meetings regularly, participate actively in unit activities, obey my officers, wear my uniform properly and advance my education and training rapidly to be of service to my community, state and nation.

Within the cadet oath are the core values of the CAP program. These values are integrity, volunteer service, excellence, and respect. Also found in the cadet oath is faith, dedication, commitment and loyalty. I often think what positive things would happen if we were to take the cadet oath and use the oath as a CAP member oath, used by all of us in unison and unity. By just removing one word "cadet" from the oath, we would have a strong pledge that would strengthen our commitment of service. The CAP member oath would read:

I pledge that I will serve faithfully in the Civil Air Patrol program, and that I will attend meetings regularly, participate actively in unit activities, obey my officers, wear my uniform properly and advance my education and training rapidly to be of service to my community, state and nation.

May we strive to continue to master the basics of unity, using integrity, volunteerism, excellence and respect as the basic values of our service. May we seek opportunity to apply these basics in all we do in serving one another. May we continue to be a

blessed country as we stand in unity as "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all".



Ch Rountree with wife Kathy during the AZWG Conference Sunday Worship Service.

DEAR Chaplains and MLOs,

So you are wandering what this spot is about.

It represents encouraging thoughts that were not expressed.

There is room for you, so let your Wing Chaplains know your thoughts...

Of the good things Chaplains and MLO's have accomplished.

So they can pass them on to the "ENCOURAGER" editor...

For all to know

O K???

("Love is..." continued from p. 1)

If God can work good from what man intended to be evil, just think what He can do with what man has intended for good. I believe with all my heart that we would not be here if we did not care for others and I believe what our leaders do is intended for the good of the Civil Air Patrol.

In my civilian job as a FAA Supervisor, I haven't always agreed with my supervisor (a man of integrity) on how to manage a problem or situation. He always listened to my solutions and those of others and pondered them. He then made a decision. Sometimes he took our suggestions, sometimes he didn't, and sometimes he did what his boss told him to do. His philosophy was that we could discuss, argue, or whatever, but when he made his decision he expected us to stand behind him. Without unity and continuity we could not have done the job.

Ch W

Team Work

by George Kelly, TXWG Dep Chaplain

The following encouraging poem written by Edgar A. Guest:

*It is all very well to have courage and skill,
And it's fine to be counted a star,
But the single deed with its touch of thrill
Does not tell the man you are.*

*For there's no lone hand in the game we play,
We must work to a bigger scheme.
And the thing that counts in the world today,
Is how do you pull with the team?*

*They may sound your praises and call you great,
They may single you out for fame,
But you must work with your running mate
Or you will never win the game.*

*Oh, never the work of life is done,
By the man with a selfish dream,
For the Battle is lost or won
By the spirit of the team.*

As chaplains we must never forget that we are part of a team contributing our expertise in the fuller spectrum of things. When we act independently of the other team members, we lessen the total effect upon the mission.

BE A TEAM PLAYER!



Under the capable leadership of Ch Nancy Smalley, a popular highlight of this year's SWR CSSC was the launching of model rockets.

SWR Chaplains Service Staff College 2005

by Nancy Smalley, TXWG Chaplain

Busy days and long hours filled the schedule of the Southwest Region Chaplain's Service Staff College held at NAS-Fort Worth-JRB in April 18-21, 2005. Participants were certified in Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and participated in a table top SAR EX exposing Chaplains and MLOs to the Incident Command System, communications, air ops, Mission Chaplain requirements, and ground team training. In addition they received information on the cadet rocketry program and on the chaplain's role during encampments.

Ch (Maj) Bill Bryan, director of the college, attended to the physical needs of the college. His staff consisted of Ch (Maj) Nancy Smalley, Deputy Director, Ch (Lt Col) Don Brown, and Ch (Lt Col) Robert Whitley, registrar, Ch (Col) Charles Sharp, Chief of Chaplains, CAP also attended.

Lt Col Sherry Jones, Special Advisor to the National Commander for CISM, traveled from Detroit, Michigan to teach the 14-hour CISM course to those attending. The course was planned and organized by Ch Brown, the SWR and TXWG CISM Director, assisted by 1st Lt Penny Herndon-Finuf, CIST Educational (Officer), and Ch Smalley, the TXWG Chaplain and Deputy CISM Team Chief.

Ch Smalley presented the three stages (Redstone, Titan, and Saturn) of the new rocketry program. Participants received a hands-on experience that consisted of building a Viking rocket, rocket launch, and prizes. One member said he did not realize how fun building and launching rockets could be.

The tabletop SAR EX provided training by experienced members of the Emergency Services Operations in the Texas Wing. Lt Col Steve Haney (DC TXWG) explained the communications needs of a SAR EX, bringing radios and a mobile communications command center. Ch Brown simulated an ELT search using an "L-per". Maj Joe Fernandez explained the needs of the IC and the purpose of the command and general staff members. Lt Col Bryan (Jumper) Childs explained the demands of air operations and Ch Smalley explained the process for becoming a Mission Chaplain and the forms and check lists needed to complete the qualification tasks. Participants moved as a team from point to point and were impressed by this training. Many felt they had a better understanding of the components of a mission and a "physical tour" of a SAR EX.

SWRCSSC 2006 will be **April 24-27** at the JRB in Ft Worth again. Contact Ch (Maj) Nancy Smalley:
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SWRCSSC 2006 will be April 24-27
(See page 2 for more information.)

A special thanks to Dr. Robert Hicks,
National Chaplain Service Dep. Director
and to Chaplain (Col) Charles Sharp,
National Chief of Chaplains
for their participation in the 2004
SWR Chaplains Service Staff College

A HAPPY AND BLESSED
SUMMER TO ALL

SWR Region Chaplain Service Staff College 2005



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